

ENTERED

December 14, 2018

David J. Bradley, Clerk

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
- BROWNSVILLE DIVISION -**

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

§

V.

§

CASE NO.: **B-18-CR-673-03****Saul Atkinson**

§

**REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION
OF THE UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE**

The Magistrate Judge submits this Report and Recommendation to the District Judge pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(3). This case has been referred, pursuant to General Order No. 15-002, to the United States Magistrate Judge for the taking of a felony guilty plea and the Federal Rule of Criminal Procedure Rule 11 Allocution. All parties have waived the right to plead before a United States District Judge and have executed a consent to proceed before a United States Magistrate Judge.

On **December 14, 2018**, the defendant and counsel appeared before the Magistrate Judge, who addressed the defendant personally in open court and informed the defendant of the admonishments under Rule 11 of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure. The Magistrate Judge determined that the defendant was competent to plead guilty and fully understood said admonishments.

The defendant entered a plea of guilty to the offense of knowingly subscribe as true, under penalty of perjury pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746, a false statement with respect to a material fact in a Form I-129, Petition for a Nonimmigrant Worker, that is, defendants asserted that Mohawk Construction, LLC needed 61 temporary laborers to perform work near Denver, Colorado, a statement defendants knew to be false, when in truth Mohawk Construction, LLC did not have or anticipate a need for any workers near Denver, Colorado. In violation of Title 18, United States

Code, Section 1956(a) and 2 as charged in Count THREE of the Indictment. A written plea agreement was recited on the record. The Government agreed to recommend credit for acceptance of responsibility and sentencing at the bottom of the advisory guideline level the defendant scores. The Court explained to the defendant that **he** would be subject to sentencing pursuant to the Sentencing Guidelines promulgated by the United States Sentencing Commission. The Court also explained that parole had been abolished and that the defendant could receive a term of supervised release. The Court explained the range of punishment with regard to imprisonment, fines, restitution, supervised release, and the statutory fee assessment pursuant to the Victim of Crime Act.

The Magistrate Judge finds the following:

- 1) The defendant, with the advice of **his** attorney, has consented orally and in writing to enter this guilty plea before the Magistrate Judge, subject to final approval and sentencing by the District Judge;
- 2) The defendant fully understands the nature of the charges and penalties;
- 3) The defendant understands **his** constitutional and statutory rights and wishes to waive these rights;
- 4) The defendant's plea is made freely and voluntarily;
- 5) The defendant is competent to enter this plea of guilty; and
- 6) There is an adequate factual basis for this plea.

RECOMMENDATION

The Magistrate Judge RECOMMENDS that the District Judge accept the plea of guilty and, after reviewing the presentence investigation report, enter final judgment of guilt against the defendant.

WARNINGS

The parties may file objections to this Report and Recommendation. A party filing objections must specifically identify those findings or recommendations to which objections are being made. The District Court need not consider frivolous, conclusive, or general objections. *Battle v. United States Parole Comm'n*, 834 F.2d 419, 421 (5th Cir. 1987).

A party's failure to file written objections to the proposed findings and recommendations contained within this Report within 14 (fourteen) days after being served with a copy of the Report shall bar that party from de novo review by the district court of the proposed findings and recommendations and, except upon grounds of plain error, shall bar the party from appellate review of proposed factual findings and legal conclusions accepted by the district court to which no objections were filed. *See* 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1)(C); *Thomas v. Arn*, 474 U.S. 140, 150-153, 106 S.Ct. 466, 472-74 (1985); *Douglas v. United Services' Automobile Ass'n*, 79 F.3d 1415, 1428-29 (5th Cir. *en banc* 1996), superseded by statute on other grounds, 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1) (extending the time to file objections from ten to fourteen days) .

The Clerk is directed to send a copy of this Report and Recommendation to all parties.

SIGNED this **14th** day of **December**, 2018.



Ronald G. Morgan
United States Magistrate Judge